

DOUBLE SAVES ARMY OFFICER HELD AS FORGER

Case of Mistaken Identity
Solved by Confession of
Man in Prison.

ACCUSED WAS HELPLESS

Guilty Man Resembled Prisoner
and Writing Was Sworn
To By Expert.

LONDON, March 25.—All the material for a melodrama is to be found in a case of mistaken identity which has just been settled in Wrexham, England, by the confession of a convict which freed an innocent man.

Opened Small Shop.

What made this trial all the more remarkable and dramatic is that the innocent man and the convict not only resemble each other closely, but the natural handwriting of one was so like the signature used by the convict in his forgeries, that a professional expert pronounced that the innocent man signed a check which was really signed by the convict.

Henry Milton Drinkwater entered the British army as a private and came out a lieutenant, having won his commission both by study and gallantry. The end of the war found him in bad health and straightened circumstances. Upon his discharge from the service he settled in Leeds with his wife and opened a small shop. He was making a fair living, nothing more, when the baby was born and his expenses increased. About three months ago a blank check was stolen from a book on a table in the military barracks at Wrexham. The check was signed with a forged name, and was passed on a woman in Wrexham. Drinkwater resembled the passer. Accompanied by the police he went to Leeds and positively identified Drinkwater as the person who had given her the strip of worthless paper.

Testimony By an Expert.

On that identification the accused was taken to Wrexham, where he had sold some pictures and given receipts for the payments. Those receipts were laid before a Mr. Smart, of Manchester, an established authority on handwriting, and with them the forged check. Smart declared the receipts which Lieutenant Drinkwater had given had been signed by the same hand which signed the check.

About the time of the trial a man named McKay, who was serving a term for forgery, heard of the desperate situation of Lieutenant Drinkwater. McKay was a professional forger. He traveled all over England "laying down" paper. Last November he was nabbed in Windsor. He was brought up at the Reading Assizes, pleaded guilty to a whole string of forgeries and was sentenced to five years. He made a statement to the prison authorities and was taken to the trial of the lieutenant as a witness for the defense.

The prosecution offered a strong case against Drinkwater. There was the identification by the woman in Wrexham, the testimony of the handwriting expert and evidence that Drinkwater had been in Wrexham, where the blank check was stolen, filled in and passed.

When the defense had its turn McKay was called. His resemblance to Drinkwater was at once apparent. McKay then explained that the Wrexham check was only one of a great many he passed in his regular business as a forger. He told in detail how he got the blank and how he happened to pass it on the woman.

Least there should be any lingering doubt in the minds of the jury, McKay wrote out the forged name as it appeared on the check. That signature, tossed off in open court, along with specimens of McKay's normal handwriting, the receipts signed by Drinkwater for the sale of pictures and the forged check were turned over to Smart.

It is to the credit of Smart that after a critical comparison he did not hesitate to condemn himself out of his own mouth. He immediately detected the inescapable similarities of McKay's handwriting in the check, McKay's imitation of the forgery and McKay's normal hand. He also saw how those three writings were distinguishable from those of Drinkwater. With that frank confession of a grievous error by the expert and Drinkwater's statement the case for the prosecution collapsed.

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Doctor Uses Airplane as Hospital During 90-Mile Flight and Saves Man Critically Ill of Pneumonia

Hampton Roads Naval Base
Physician and Aviator Make
Aerial History With Thrilling
Trip to Rescue Life-Saver
Stricken at Isolated Station.

By HARRY P. MOORE.

NORFOLK, Va., March 25.—Airplanes, while comparatively new for transportation purposes, frequently have been used to speed physicians to persons needing their services, but it is believed that the first case in which one was used as a hospital is to the credit of the Hampton Roads Naval Base.

An airplane from this station carried a physician ninety miles to the aid of a man who was dying of pneumonia and the transporting physician safely back to the station hospital. The man was so desperately ill, the physician was compelled to minister to him constantly during the flight and did so successfully the patient now is well on the road to recovery.

The man whose life was saved by these heroic methods is V. E. Squires, a government electrician at Poyner's Hill life saving station, on the North Carolina coast. The physician is Dr. Benjamin, of the Hampton Roads Naval Base hospital.

Called By Radio.

Some days ago there came through the air an S O S call. It was not the call of distress from a sinking ship at sea. It was a call for help from a dying man. The call was sent out from a radio station near Cape Hatteras.

The call was heard at the Hampton Roads Naval Base and Admiral Rodman, commanding officer of the Fifth Naval District, lost no time in answering it. He ordered an ambulance plane made ready at once. Then he detailed Dr. Benjamin and an aviator to go to the sick man.

The plane was equipped with all necessary supplies for furnishing a first aid treatment. There was a feather pillow, a stretcher and blankets. The plane "hopped off" from the naval base in the face of a stiff easterly wind.

Poyner's Hill is about 90 miles from



E. V. SQUIRES.

Norfolk. The plane made the trip in something like an hour and about the same time was consumed on the homeward voyage.

When Dr. Benjamin stepped out of the plane at Poyner's Hill, he found Squires had been sick several days. There was no doctor at Poyner's Hill and the only attention Squires had received was what could be given by inexperienced if willing hands.

Placed in Plane.

The man was placed in a stretcher and put on board the plane and the return trip to Norfolk was begun.

During the entire trip back to this city Dr. Benjamin administered to Squires, the same as if he had been riding on a train or steamer. Squires had a temperature of 103 when he was placed in the plane at Poyner's Hill, when he arrived here his fever was half a degree lower.

Squires was landed at the front door of the Public Health Hospital by the plane. He was carried into the hospital where the best of medical attention was given. Now he

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FOREIGN ENGINEERS INSPECT U. S. ROADS

Oriental and South American
Experts Study American
Methods of Construction.

Foreign countries, particularly those of South America and Japan and China, are much interested in American methods of road construction.

In recent months the Bureau of Public Roads of the United States Department of Agriculture has been visited by several Japanese and Chinese engineers sent to this country to study the operation of the Federal and State highway organizations and to inspect actual construction.

According to one of the Japanese visitors, his country has recently made its first appropriation for modern highway construction, an amount that would not be considered large by some of our States, but it is thought that the movement will grow rapidly when the people can see the benefits of the roads to be constructed with the present appropriation.

In response to the interest shown by the South American republics the Pan-American Union recently issued an educational bulletin on American roads, printed in Spanish and Portuguese, describing American practice, and illustrated by photographs collected by the Bureau of Public Roads showing types of road construction and construction machinery.

The bulletin will not only be valuable to the South Americans in solving their road problems, but should stimulate trade in American road machinery.

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DRY LAW HAS MADE RED NOSE A RARITY

Milady's Rouge and Powder
Still Bother Retoucher of
Camera's Shadows.

GRAND RAPIDS, March 25.—"It is easier to photograph men now than in the old alcoholic days," declares Thomas Noble, who has been telling customers to "look pleasant" for more than a third of a century.

"But the women more than use up the time saved on the men," he adds. "The retoucher gives a sigh of satisfaction at the absence of red noses and 'juniper berries,' but sharpens his pencil afresh for cheeks represented by spots of burning red in snowbanks of white powder," explains Noble.

"These spots would look like hollows in the picture but for the skill of the retoucher, who finds that over-the-counter facial decorations give new literalness to the term 'artist photographer.'"

More husbands and wives pose for pictures together than in the old

Bacchanalian days, and few pictures remain uncalled for, testified the veteran photographer.

Won't Work 15 Hours
Per Day, Sent Home

HAMILTON, Ont., March 25.—Fifteen hours' farm work a day was too much for Israel Rich, who came here from Somerset, England, with his wife and six children. He said he would refuse to work.

The Canadian government said he would have to return to England. All who enter Canada who refuse to work must return to the country they came from, according to Canadian law.

Bible Ship Now Held
as Liquor Smuggler

KINGSTON, N. C., March 25.—The Message of Peace, British West Indian booze ship held at Wilmington, N. C., after being seized by the coast guard farther up the coast, is an example of a good ship having gone to the bad.

The Message of Peace fulfilled its mission for years, carrying Bible truths to the dock workers and shore population of English coast towns. Then the minister died and the craft was sold.

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